

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace Figure 1 with the attached Replacement Sheet.

REMARKS

The following remarks are responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on 31 August 2005. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending application.

Office Action Summary

The Information Disclosure Statement filed on 22 June 2005 has not been considered for failure to comply with 37 CFR1.98(a)(2). Figure 1 has been objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(o). Claims 1-9 and 17-24 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-9 and 17-24 have also been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicants' alleged admitted prior art in view of US Patent 6,243,384 of Eriksson et al ("Eriksson"). Claims 10-16 and 25-28 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eriksson in view of US Patent 6,208,623 of Rochberger et al ("Rochberger").

Status of Claims

At the time the Office Action was mailed, claims 1-28 were pending in the application. In the present response, claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, 17-23 and 25-27 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-28 remain pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure Statement filed on 22 June 2005 has not been considered for failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). Applicants submit herewith, a corrected Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

Drawing Objections

Figure 1 has been objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(o) for the absence of legends. The Examiner has requested that legends be added to Figure 1 to identify circles and boxes in Figure 1. In response, Applicants have corrected Figure 1 to comply with the Examiner's request and have included a replacement sheet for Figure 1 herewith in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Amendments to the Specification

Paragraphs [0005], [0020] and [0022] have been amended to correct minor inconsistencies in terminology. Paragraphs [0006] and [0043] have been amended to expand the first use of acronyms, as requested by the Office Action. Paragraph [0034] has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-9 and 17-24 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, incorporating details of the rejection set forth in a previous Office Action. By way of the present response, applicants have amended independent claims 1, 10 and 17, as well as selected claims dependent therefrom, to more particular point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-9 and 17-24 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Applicants' alleged admitted prior art in view Eriksson, incorporating details of the rejection set forth in a previous Office Action (2/18/05 Office Action). The present Office Action characterizes the applicants' response to the previous Office Action as agreement with the Examiner's characterization of admitted prior art and interpretation of Eriksson. Applicants submit that no such agreement was proffered and respectfully object to the characterization of the response.

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites:

A method, comprising:

- a) receiving, at a node, notification of an address change of said node, said node within a PNNI ATM network, said node a destination endpoint for an SPVC that flows within said PNNI ATM network to said node; and
- b) issuing from said node information describing said address change within a SIG field in a PNNI Topology State Element (PTSE); and

c) propagating said information describing said address change throughout said PNNI ATM network.

(emphasis added).

The previous Office Action states that:

Figure 1 of Eriksson shows an ATM switching node 20 of a PNNI protocol network. The node includes a node control comprising a call control 54, routing determination 56, topology cell handling and a table handling unit comprising address analysis, routing analysis, local look-up, routing tables and **table maintenance logic (see abstract) for changing addresses stored in the tables** in response to both address change initiated by operator and PNNI address updating information generated by a PNNI protocol unit 56 (see abstract).

(2/18/05 Office Action, page 4) (emphasis added).

The Office Action appears to equate (erroneously) Eriksson's table maintenance logic for changing addresses stored in the tables with "receiving, at a node, notification of an address change of said node" as recited in claim 1. However, what Eriksson actually discloses is:

As call control unit 54 performs connection setup, an address value representative of the called party is forwarded to table handling unit 60 from call control unit 54. The table handling unit 60 includes a table handling processor 70. Table handling processor 70 in turn includes address analysis logic 72, routing analysis logic 74; local look-up logic 76; and table maintenance logic 78. **Table handling unit 60 further includes a table known as the consolidated table, of which there is both an active version (shown as table 80A in the drawings) and an inactive version (shown as table 80B in then drawings).** At any given time, one of the tables 80A, 80B is designated as the active table and the other is designated as the inactive table. Whichever one of the tables 80A, 80B is currently the active table (pointed to by the table selector S in FIG. 1) is referenced by various ones of the logical blocks of table handling processor 70

in connection with connection setup. The other of the tables 80A, 80B which is currently designated as inactive serves as a working area in which table maintenance logic 78 can prepare an updated table for subsequent use as the active table.

(Eriksson, col. 5, lines 1-10 and Figure 1) (emphasis added).

That is, Eriksson discloses maintaining a table of active addresses in the network and inactive addresses in the network for the purpose of updating the topology of a network and routing a call through the network. Eriksson does not disclose **receiving, at a node, notification of an address change of said node** as recited in both the original claim 1 and claim 1, as amended.

Furthermore, the Office Action's recitation of the applicants' alleged prior art admissions does not include the subject limitation of claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that claim 1 is patentable over Eriksson in view of any alleged prior art admissions of the applicants.

Given that claims 2-9 depend from claim 1, and include all of the limitations of claim 1, applicants further submit that claims 2-9 are also patentable.

Claim 17

Claim 17 recites:

A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions which, when executed by a digital processing system, cause said system to perform a method, comprising:

issuing from a node information describing an address change to said node within a SIG field in a PTSE, said node within a PNNI ATM network, said node a destination endpoint for an SPVC that flows within said PNNI ATM network to said node; and

propagating said information describing said address change throughout said PNNI ATM network.

(emphasis added).

As noted above, Eriksson discloses updating active and inactive nodes in a network. Eriksson does not disclose "issuing from a node information describing an address change to said node" as recited in amended claim 17. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that claim 17 is patentable over Eriksson for at least the reasons discussed above.

Given that claims 18-24 depend from claim 17, and include all of the limitations of claim 17, applicants submit that claims 18-24 are also patentable over the cited reference.

Claims 10-16 and 25-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eriksson in view of Rochberger.

Claim 10

As amended, claim 10 recites:

A method, comprising:

- a) receiving at a node within a PNNI ATM network, information describing an address change of an other node within said PNNI ATM network, said other node a destination endpoint for an SPVC that flows within said PNNI ATM network to said other node, said information comprising an old address for said other node and a new address for said other node, said information contained within a SIG field in a PTSE;
- b) comparing said old address for said other node with an SPVC destination node address maintained by said node to establish an SPVC connection supported by said node; and
- c) replacing said SPVC destination node address with said new address if said old address and said SPVC destination node address match.

(emphasis added).

As discussed above, Eriksson discloses maintaining tables of active and inactive nodes in a network. Eriksson does not disclose, teach or suggest "receiving at a node within a PNNI ATM network, information describing an address change of an other node within said PNNI ATM network" as recited in claim 10, as amended.

Rochberger is directed to the interoperability of older networks based on E-IISP routing with newer PNNI networks (Rochberger, Abstract) and determining which ports of a network node should be configured as PNNI ports and which ports should be configured as E-IISP ports based on their registered

network addresses (Rochberger, col. 11, line 46 to col. 12, line 31). Rochberger only discloses receiving network addresses from nearest neighbors. Rochberger does not disclose, teach or suggest any mechanism for "receiving at a node within a PNNI ATM network, information describing an **address change** of an other node within said PNNI ATM network" as recited in amended claim 10.

Therefore, Eriksson and Rochberger, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject limitation of claim 10, as amended. Accordingly, applicants submit that claim 10 is patentable over the cited references.

Given that claims 11 through 16 depend from claim 10, and include all of the limitations of claim 10, applicants respectfully submit that claims 11 through 16 are also patentable over the cited references.

Claim 25

As amended, claim 25 recites:

A machine readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions which, when executed by a digital processing system, cause said system to perform a method, comprising:

- a) receiving, at a node in a PNNI ATM network, a PTSE having SIG information that includes an old address for an SPVC endpoint within said network and a new address for said SPVC endpoint within said network;
- b) comparing said old address with an SPVC destination node address maintained by said node to establish an SPVC connection supported by said node; and
- c) replacing said SPVC destination node address with said new address if said old address and said SPVC destination node address match.

(emphasis added).

As discussed above, Eriksson discloses maintaining tables of active and inactive nodes in a network. Eriksson does not disclose, teach or suggest "receiving, at a node in a PNNI ATM network, a PTSE having SIG information that includes an old address for an SPVC endpoint within said network and a new address for said SPVC endpoint within said network" as recited in claim 10, as amended.

The Office Action states that:

Rochberger [teaches] using PTSE to update address database [sic] (see "PTSE---updates topology databases--" in lines 55 et seq, of col. 3). That is done by comparing and replacing prefixes (see column 2 lines 31-40; column 6 line 24+ and lines 56-61).

(2/18/05 Office Action, page 6).

The Office Action's citation to Rochberger is inapposite. Rochberger discloses a method for each node in a network to determine its network node neighbors and whether it becomes directly connected to a new neighbor.

Rochberger discloses:

In the address prefix exchange method, each node knows who its neighbors are. **This is accomplished by each node sending out on all its NNI ports an identification message that comprises the address prefix assigned to it and its significant length.** This message is sent out periodically (e.g., every second). The nodes that receive it compare the address prefix in the message to the special NNI type address that is registered on the port the message was received on. If the addresses do not match or there is no NNI address registered, then the node makes the received address prefix the new registered NNI address for that port and changes its routing tables accordingly. If the address does match, the message is ignored.

(Rochberger, col. 6, lines 24-36) (emphasis added).

That is, Rochberger discloses that each node in the network receives from the nodes it is directly connected to, their assigned network addresses. At each node, if a received address does not match a registered address for the port the address was received on, then the registered address is updated.

Receiving an address from each nearest neighbor, as disclosed by Rochberger is not the same as “receiving, at a node . . . information that includes an old address for an SPVC endpoint within said network and a new address for said SPVC endpoint within said network.”

Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that Eriksson and Rochberger, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the subject limitation and that claim 25 is patentable over the cited references.

Given that claims 26-28 depend from claim 25, and include all of its limitations, applicants further submit that claims 26-28 are also patentable over the cited references.

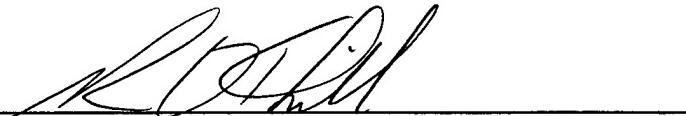
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully submit that all objections and rejections have been overcome and that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account Number 02-2666. If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Richard W. Thill at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

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